



Student Guide

Virginia's First Virtual Governor's School
<http://www.hgs.k12.va.us>

*Sponsored by the
Virginia Department of Education and
Participating School Districts*

Our Mission

Is to provide challenging learning opportunities for the gifted and talented students of far Southwest Virginia that are not available to them in their regular school program.

We will accomplish this by strengthening their abilities and nurturing their social and emotional well being through mentoring, rigorous academic courses, service to the community, and leadership training within an entrepreneurial culture that encourages creativity, initiative, and problem solving.

What is the Linwood Holton Governor's School? (www.hgs.k12.va.us)

The Virtual School

This "virtual school" provides a regional Science-Mathematics-Humanities-Global Economics-Technology Program for gifted and talented students to supplement their educational program in preparation for college.

Who can take classes from the Governor's School?

This unique program is offered to gifted students (B average or above) within 17 separate school districts in Southwest Virginia. The "virtual school" will draw students from the counties of Bland, Buchanan, Carroll, Dickenson, Grayson, Highland, Lee, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Tazewell, Washington, Wise, and Wythe, in addition to the cities of Bristol, Galax, and Norton.

What are the advantages?

- Dual credit through the Regional Community College Program. Enter college after high school graduation with several college credits. All tuition paid.
- Self-esteem builder for completing college work in high school.
- Join a community of Regional Gifted Learners in the "On-Line Environment" throughout the Region and State.
- Receive college credit for work, which may not be currently available from any accessible source in some high schools.
- Guaranteed success for regular attendance and completion of all work required.

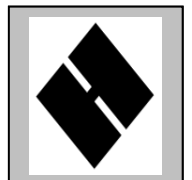
How does a student enroll in the Governor's School?

Visit the A. Linwood Holton Governor's School website at <http://www.hgs.k12.va.us>. At the recommendation of a Guidance Counselor, students may follow instructions to the application form, download and complete for approval. Mail or fax to the Governor's School at:

A. Linwood Holton Governor's School
P.O. Box 1987
One Partnership Circle
Abingdon, Virginia 24212

Voice (276) 619-4326 ♦ Fax (276) 619-4309

Email: holton@hgs.k12.va.us





A. Linwood Holton Governor's School

**Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center
One Partnership Circle
Abingdon, Virginia 24210**

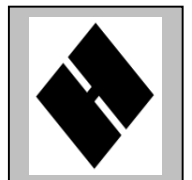
**Mailing:
P.O. Box 1987
Abingdon, VA 24212**

**Main Phone (276) 619-4326
Facsimile (276) 619-4309**

www.hgs.k12.va.us

Faculty and Staff

Dr. Michael M. Robinson, Director	mrobinson@hgs.k12.va.us
Dr. Steve Rapp, Instructor	srapp@hgs.k12.va.us
Mrs. Karen Smith, Instructor	ksmith@hgs.k12.va.us
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A. LINWOOD HOLTON GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

VIRGINIA'S FIRST
VIRTUAL GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

ACADEMIC YEAR
2016-2017

All Year Courses (Both 1st and 2nd Semesters)

<i>Zero Period</i>	7:20-8:10	Anatomy & Physiology Appalachian History Principles of Physics Probability & Statistics
<i>Third Period</i>	11:40-12:30	Anatomy & Physiology Engineering & Robotics History of Western Civilization
<i>Fifth Period</i>	1:25-2:15	Creative Writing
<i>Sixth Period</i>	1:40-2:30	Introduction to Engineering Methods & Computer Programming Environmental Science and Related Problems

First Semester Block

<i>Block I</i>	8:20-9:50	Advanced Multimedia Applications Astronomy History of Western Civilization
<i>Block II</i>	10:00-11:30	Anatomy & Physiology Appalachian History Probability & Statistics
<i>Block III</i>	12:10-1:35	Environmental Science and Related Problems

Second Semester Block

<i>Block I</i>	8:20-9:50	Advanced Multimedia Applications Anatomy & Physiology History of World Civilization
<i>Block II</i>	10:00-11:30	History of Western Civilization Introduction to Engineering Methods & Computer Programming Principles of Physics
<i>Block III</i>	12:10-1:35	Environmental Science and Related Problems



A. Linwood Holton Governor's School

2016-2017

(Please complete online, or with an ink pen.)

Name: _____
(First, Middle, Last)

Mailing Address: _____
P.O. Box/Street City State Zip

Parental Phone: _____ Expected Year of Graduation: _____

High School: _____ School Division: _____

Parental Consent For Application Under the Dual Enrollment Program

By your signature on this application, you give permission for your son/daughter to enroll in the Virginia Community College System under the dual enrollment program at the community college serving the region of their high school.

If you **do not** want your child to receive TUITION-FREE college credit, initial here: _____.

Parental Authorization & Consent to Photograph During School Activities

By your signature on this application, you authorize HGS to use personally identifiable photographs and/or videos of your son/daughter for award recognition or promotional purposes.

Student Gender: Female Male

If you **do not** want us to use photographs/videos of your child along with their name in future promotions or news releases, please initial here: _____.

Photographs taken during orientation are shown during ALHGS classes only.

Please check the class(es) that you plan to take during the 2016-2017 academic school year.
(Shaded areas indicate when the course is not available.)

Course	Year Long 7:20 – 8:10	Fall Block 8:20 – 9:50	Fall Block 10:00 – 11:30	Fall Block 12:10 – 1:35	Spring Block 8:20 – 9:50	Spring Block 10:00 – 11:30	Spring Block 12:10 – 1:35	Year Long 11:40 – 12:30	Year Long 1:25 – 2:15	Year Long 1:40 – 2:30
Astronomy										
Advanced Multimedia Applications										
Anatomy & Physiology										
Appalachian History										
Creative Writing										
Engineering Methods & Computer Programming										
Engineering & Robotics										
Environmental Science and Related Problems										
Principles of Physics										
Probability & Statistics										
Western Civilization										
World Civilization										

Courses offered by the Governor's School are taught at the college level and a conscientious and above average effort is required.

Student Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Parent's or Guardian's Printed Name: _____

Principal/Counselor/Gifted Coordinator Signature: _____

All signatures are required for admission.

A&P

Anatomy and Physiology



Karen Smith has taught Science at HGS since it opened in 1998. Previously she taught at Fall Branch High School, Gates Chili High School, and Midlothian Middle School in Chesterfield County. She presently teaches Anatomy & Physiology at HGS and always has many eager students.

Mrs. Smith is a graduate of Milligan College with a B.A. in Chemistry and a B.S. in Biology. She has completed graduate work in Biology at East Tennessee State and Wake Forest Universities and earned a M.Ed. in Science

Education at Milligan College. She is an Adjunct Instructor at Southwest Virginia Community College and Milligan College, and has presented many workshops on science and distance learning at state, regional, and national conferences.

Anatomy & Physiology

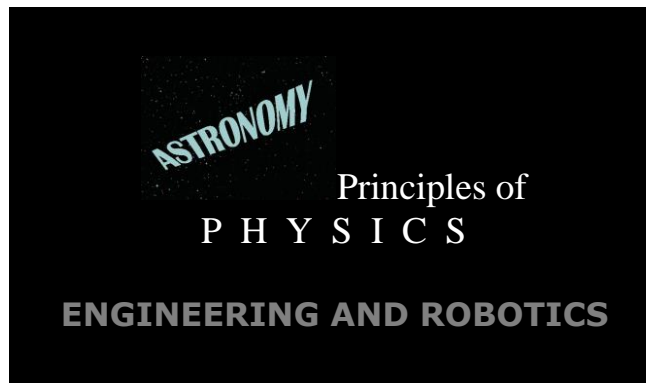
[BIO 141](#) Human Anatomy & Physiology I, 4 Credit Hours

[BIO 142](#) Human Anatomy & Physiology II, 4 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: Biology *and* General Chemistry

Human Anatomy and Physiology integrates anatomy and physiology of cells, tissues, organs, and systems of the human body. Integrates concepts of chemistry, physics, and pathology.

This course will present an integrated approach to human anatomy and physiology along with microbiology and pathology. The structure and function of the human body will be investigated. Upon completion of this two semester study students should understand the scope and subdivision of anatomy and physiology as well as the chemistry of the human body as it relates to the health sciences. All students who are considering any field in the medical sciences will benefit from an in-depth knowledge of the internal and external body systems. The instructor will introduce terminology as well as applications used in the medical arena. Virtual laboratory activities and simulations will be integrated into this study to aid students in making the information their own.



Steve Rapp has taught science and engineering courses at HGS since it opened in 1998. Prior to coming to HGS, he taught high school physics, chemistry, and biology in the McDowell County, West Virginia School System. And for nearly a decade he was an Assistant Professor at East Tennessee State University's University School where he taught advanced chemistry, physics, and astronomy.

Dr. Rapp holds a B.S., with emphasis in biology, from Concord College. He also holds a M.A. in Education Administration as well as a M.S. in Physical Science, both from Marshall University. Dr. Rapp has also earned a Doctorate in Education from East Tennessee State University. In addition to his current instructor position with the Holton Governor's School, Dr. Rapp teaches for Central Virginia Community College and Wytheville Community College.

Dr. Rapp has received many honors and awards. He is a Spitzer Space Science Teacher Ambassador and in 2009, was inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. He is the author of over 25 articles and technical reports and has presented his innovative techniques and ideas at well over 50 science conferences.

Astronomy

NAS 131 Astronomy I: 4 Credit Hours

NAS 132 Astronomy II: 4 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Astronomy I & II studies the major and minor bodies of the solar system, stars and nebulae of the Milky Way, and extragalactic objects. Examines life and death of stars, origin of the universe, history of astronomy, and instruments and techniques of observation.

Introduction to Engineering and Robotics

MEC 101 Introduction to Engineering Technology: 2 Credit Hours

IND 160 Introduction to Robotics: 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: Physics, Algebra II

Introduction to Engineering introduces engineering technology and provides historical background. Topics such as professional ethics, problem solving techniques involving forces, structures, material, fluids, energy, and electricity and U.S. Customary and S.I. units, and units' conversions are covered. *Introduction to Robotics* studies the evolution of robotics with emphasis on automated and flexible manufacturing. Presents advantages and limitations of present robot systems.

Principles of Physics

PHY 121 Principles of Physics I: 4 Credit Hours

PHY 122 Principles of Physics II: 4 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: Algebra II, Geometry (or equivalent)

Principles of Physics covers fundamental principles of physics. Includes mechanics, thermodynamics, wave phenomena, electricity and magnetism, and selected topics from modern physics.





Probability and Statistics

Bruce Norton joined the HGS Faculty in 2000 as an instructor in Math and Engineering. Dr. Norton holds a B.S. in engineering from the University of South Florida. He also holds a M.S. in engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as well as a Ph.D. in engineering from the University of South Florida.

Dr. Norton has worked at Lincoln Laboratory, where he was actively involved in early research work in the field of modern computational fluid dynamics. He has also worked as a systems engineer for Reflectone, a manufacturer of military aircraft simulators, and as a systems analyst for Honeywell Military Avionics. More recently he held a senior engineer position with Raytheon Company's Missile Systems Division. Dr. Norton has taught upper level engineering courses as an instructor with the University of South Florida's College of Engineering as well as applied mathematics topics at several other colleges. He currently teaches in the areas of applied mathematics, engineering, and computer science with the Governor's School in addition to being the school's systems administrator.

Introduction to Engineering Methods and Computer Programming

EGR 125 Introduction to Engineering Methods: 3 Credit Hours

EGR 127 Introduction to Computer Programming: 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: Algebra II

This course will introduce the fundamentals of structured computer programming and problem solving techniques using high level computer languages. While computer languages such as Fortran and Java will be mentioned, the course will develop an ability to program in the object oriented language C++. Students will construct original computer code as well as use packaged software in their exploration of learning software based problem-solving techniques. Software such as Microsoft's Visual Studio will be used to develop original code, Matlab like software will be used to program using packaged algorithms, and industry standard software such as TecPlot 360 will be used for data analysis. Students will begin learning program design through the use of Python and Scheme before advancing to C++.

Solution strategies will emphasize problem solving in technical fields. The course is all inclusive. Thus, technical fundamentals required for problem solving will be covered as part of the course.

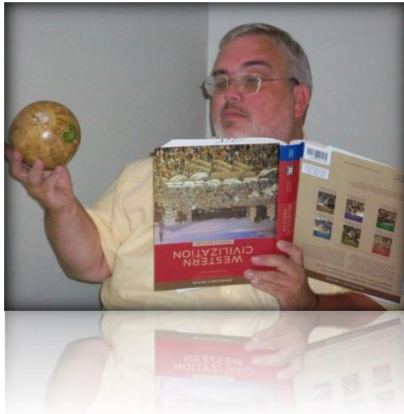
Probability & Statistics

MTH 241 Statistics I, 3 Credit Hours

MTH 242 Statistics II, 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Probability & Statistics I covers descriptive statistics, probability, probability distributions, estimation, and hypothesis testing. *Probability & Statistics II* continues the study of estimation and hypothesis testing with emphasis on correlation and regression, analysis of variance, chi-square test, and non-parametric methods.



Mark Hagy has taught History at HGS since 2000. He also serves as an Adjunct Instructor for Virginia Highlands Community College, King College, and Emory & Henry. Presently his subjects at HGS include: Appalachian History, Western Civilization, and World Civilization.

Mr. Hagy has a B.A. in History from Emory & Henry College and a M.A. also in History from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He is presently completing a doctoral program in History from this same university. He is a frequent presenter at local and regional workshops on a variety of historical topics.

Appalachian History

HIS 205 Local History: 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: U.S. History (can be taken concurrently)

This course addresses the history of the Appalachian region (from Pre-Columbian period through the early 21st century) with a focus on southern Appalachia. Emphasis will be placed on such skills as historical research, use of primary documents, oral history, archival work, and preservation.

History of Western Civilization I & II

HIS 101 History of Western Civilization I: 3 Credit Hours

HIS 102 History of Western Civilization II: 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: U.S. & World History

History of Western Civilization examines the development of western civilization from ancient times to the present.

History of World Civilization I & II

HIS 111 History of World Civilization I: 3 Credit Hours

HIS 112 History of World Civilization II: 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: U.S. & World History

History of World Civilization surveys Asian, African, Latin American, and European civilizations from the ancient period to the present.



Advanced Multimedia Applications

Alicia Johnson



Alicia joined our team this August of 2012. With a Bachelor's degree in English and a Master's in Instructional Media, Alicia is highly qualified to instruct our *Advanced Multimedia Applications* course. She offers a comforting—yet challenging—personality and instructional style that will capture the hearts of our students.

An English Teacher from Giles County Schools, Alicia taught 8th and 11th grade general education and college prep students for the past five years. Mrs. Johnson earned her Bachelor of Arts in

Literature at Mary Washington College, her Master of Science in Instructional Media from Wilkes University, and will soon complete Virginia Tech's "Instructional Design and Technology" doctoral program.

Advanced Multimedia Applications

[ITE 170](#) Multimedia Software, 3 Credit Hours

[ITE 270](#) Advanced Multimedia Development, 3 Credit Hours

Advanced Multimedia Applications explores the technical fundamentals of creating multimedia projects with related software and hardware. Students will learn to manage resources required for multimedia production and evaluation and techniques for selection of graphics and multimedia software. Students will then refine the skills learned focusing on project development using digital media: video clips, still images, and audio (sounds, music, and narration).

Pre-requisite: Keyboarding

Creative Writing

With Mrs. Dominique Traverse Locke



Dominique Traverse Locke received her B.A. in English from Virginia Intermont College where she served as editor of the college's literary magazine and ran Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field. She received her M.F.A. in Creative Writing from Queens University of Charlotte. She has been publishing work in literary magazines such as *The Sow's Ear Poetry Review*, *Barely South Review*, *Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel*, *The Howl*, *The Clinch Mountain Review*, *The Dead Mule*, and other fine publications regularly since 2006. Two of her manuscripts were finalists in the Press 53 Open Awards, one of which won the poetry category. Her poem, "Thumb," was a finalist in the STILL: The Journal Literary Contests. Additionally, her poem "By Late July" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Dominique's first collection of poems, a chapbook entitled *The Goodbye Child*, was published by Aldrich Press in late spring of 2012. Also, in 2012, her first full-length collection of poems, *No More Hard Times*, was published by Alabaster Leaves Publishing. Dominique is a

member of the Appalachian Authors Guild and the Virginia Writers Club. She coached, taught Advanced Placement English, British Literature, and Journalism at Twin Valley High School, and is now teaching dual enrollment English courses at Castlewood High School in Russell County.

Creative Writing I & II

ENG-211 / ENG-212 (3/3)

ENG 211 - Creative Writing I

Introduces the student to the fundamentals of writing imaginatively. Students write in forms to be selected from poetry, fiction, drama, and essays. 3 credits

ENG 212 - Creative Writing II

Introduces the student to the fundamentals of writing imaginatively. Students write in forms to be selected from poetry, fiction, drama, and essays. 3 credits

Creative Writing has a general Pre-Requisite requirement of ENG 112, but allows the option for this requirement to be waived on a case by case basis.

Environmental Science

Related Problems

Julie Reimer



Julie Reimer grew up outside Charlottesville, Virginia, and received her B.S. degree from Virginia Tech with a major in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. She worked as a chemical analyst at an environmental testing laboratory for two years before returning to school to gain teacher licensure. She taught Environmental Science and Chemistry at Chilhowie High School for 9 years, where she also enjoyed coaching the Envirothon team. In 2012, she left CHS to complete her M.S. degree in Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences at Virginia Tech. Mrs. Reimer has always enjoyed spending time outdoors hiking, camping, backpacking, canoeing, and horseback riding. Currently living on a farm in Marion with her husband and their pets and livestock, she enjoys learning about and practicing sustainable agriculture. She is looking forward to sharing her love of nature and her knowledge of environmental science with her students at the Governor's School.

Environmental Science and Related Problems I & II

ENV-100 / ENV-220 (3/3)

This course will place emphasis on the unique Appalachian environment and its challenges.

ENV 100 – Basic Environmental Science

Presents and discusses basic scientific, health-related, ethical, economic, social and political aspects of environmental activities, policies/decisions. Emphasizes the multidisciplinary nature of environmental problems and their potential solutions.

3 credits

ENV 220 - Environmental Problems

Studies the relationship of man to his environment; ecological principles, population dynamics, topics of current importance including air, water, and noise pollution; poisoning and toxicity, radiation, conservation and management of natural resources.

3 credits

Environmental Science and Related Problems has a general Pre-requisite requirement of Biology.

Dual Enrollment Student Admissions

Although high school and home school students are normally not qualified for general admission, colleges may offer admission to those students who meet additional criteria. Dual enrollment is restricted to high school juniors, seniors, and home school students studying at the high school junior or senior levels. Home school students must **also** provide a copy of a home school agreement approved by the school district or a letter from the local school board or a copy of the letter filed by the parent/legal guardian declaring home school for religious exemption. Documentation of parental permission is required for all dual enrollment students.

Because **admitting freshmen and sophomores** is considered exceptional, the college ready status of each prospective freshman and sophomore student will be treated on a case-by-case basis. Formal approval by the college president is required **for admitting freshmen or sophomores**.

All students admitted under this section must demonstrate readiness for college by meeting the criteria below.

Students enrolling in a dual enrollment course must meet all course pre-requisites.

Admission Criteria for Transfer Courses							
	Virginia Placement Test (VPT)	COMPAS S	ASSET	PSAT	SAT	ACT	SOL
English / Writing	ENG 111	76	43	50	500	21	N/A
Reading	ENG 111	81	42	50	500	21	N/A
Mathematics	MTE 1	25	33	52	520	22	Algebra I - Pass

Admission Criteria for CTE Courses							
	Virginia Placement Test (VPT)	COMPAS S	ASSET	PSAT	SAT	ACT	SOL
English / Writing	ENF 1	32	35	50	500	21	N/A
Reading	ENF 1	62	35	50	500	21	N/A
Mathematics	MTE 1	25	33	52	520	22	Algebra I - Pass

Grading Scale

All grades are based on the college level grading scale as all Governor’s School courses, with the exception of *Methods of Research*, are taken for college credit.

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
Below 60	F
Incomplete	I

Work missed because of excused absences must be made up as quickly as possible. Make-up tests and quizzes must be scheduled with the teacher. Incomplete grades must be resolved before the end of the grading period.

Honor Code

All Governor’s School students are expected to submit their own work on projects, tests, homework assignments, research papers, lab write-ups, and in-class assignments unless the Governor’s School instructor specifically gives instructions allowing for group effort on a given assignment. All students must sign a *Code of Conduct*, which specifically outlines the honor code. Suspected Honor Code violations should be reported to the director immediately. The director will then make a decision as to the penalty. Penalties may include grade reduction, notification to parents, notification to home school principal, dismissal from the Governor’s School or other actions as may be deemed appropriate.

Textbooks

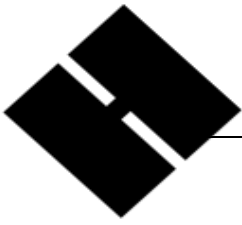
The ALHGS does not charge fees for textbook use for any students. Textbooks will be supplied free-of-charge to all students for use during the course of the scheduled class. No books will be sold to students. Students are expected to exercise reasonable care in their use of all textbooks so that at the end of the course they only exhibit reasonable wear and tear.

Field Trips

Field trips will be scheduled during the spring at a time of least conflict with activities within the participating fifteen divisions. All field trips will be pertinent to the academic area(s) in which the student is studying.

Field Trip Forms

Parents of all students attending any trip shall sign and complete a Permission Form, an Emergency Medical Form, and a Participant Waiver and Hold Harmless release form, examples of which are on the pages that follow.



A. Linwood Holton Governor's School

Permission Form

The following guidelines must be adhered to while participating in any A. Linwood Holton Governor's School field trip. Violation of these standards may result in immediate return of the student as well as subsequent disciplinary action.

1. Any student who drives to the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center must park his or her vehicle in the parking lot across the culvert (below I-81). Students will not be allowed access to personal vehicles until all school activities are completed.
2. No alcohol or other illegal substances are allowed. Any violation will result in immediate dismissal.
3. No cigarettes or tobacco products are permitted.
4. Females are not allowed in the male rooms at any time and males are not allowed in the female rooms at any time.
5. Students will be in their rooms by 11:00 p.m., unless otherwise stated.
6. Students will participate in all activities as arranged by the Governor's School.
7. Students will conduct themselves as young adults at all times and remember their actions are reflective of the home and the Governor's School.

I, _____ (please print), plan to participate in the Governor's School field trip. I have read and understand the rules stated above. I agree to abide by these rules and realize that I can be dismissed from the program for failure to comply with them.

(Student's Signature)

(Date)

I have read the guidelines above, and I give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the Governor's School field trip as scheduled. If needed, I can be reached during the day at _____ or the evening at _____.

(Parent's Signature)

(Date)

**THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED TO THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL
ALONG WITH THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL FORM.**



A. Linwood Holton Governor's School

Emergency Medical Form

(Please type or print)

STUDENT'S NAME _____ SEX _____ D.O.B. ____ / ____ / ____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (DAY) _____ (EVENING) _____

Please list any significant health problems that might be important to a physician evaluating this student in case of an emergency.

Please list any medications, allergies, etc.

Is student presently taking medication? _____ If yes, what type of medication? _____

Please list date of last tetanus shot. _____

During Governor's School, students will be participating in a variety of activities. If there are any activities that this student should not or cannot participate in, please list below.

Signature of parent or guardian _____

EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION:

In The Event That I Cannot Be Reached In An Emergency, I Hereby Give My Permission To The Physicians Selected By The A. Linwood Holton Governor's School To Secure Proper Treatment For The Person Named Above.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN _____

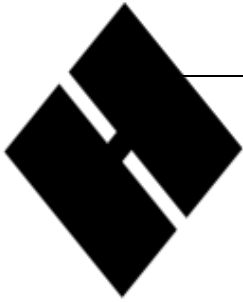
RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT _____

INSURANCE COMPANY _____

INSURANCE POLICY NUMBER OR PHOTOCOPY OF CARD _____

DAYTIME EMERGENCY TELEPHONE _____

EVENING EMERGENCY TELEPHONE _____



A. Linwood Holton Governor's School

One Partnership Circle ♦ Abingdon ♦ Virginia ♦ 24210
Telephone 276.619.4326 ♦ Facsimile 276.619.4309

Participant Waiver And Hold Harmless A. Linwood Holton Governor's School

1. In consideration for receiving permission to participate in any of the field trips during this current school year (herein referred to as ACTIVITY) hereby **RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE, AND AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS** any and all purposes A. Linwood Holton Governor's School, all participating district county school boards, the A. Linwood Holton Governing Board, and their officers, servants, agents, volunteers, or employees (herein referred to as RELEASEES) **FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITIES, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH**, that may be sustained by me while participating in such activity, or while on the premises owned or leased by RELEASEES. I acknowledge there may be physically strenuous activities. I know of no medical reason why I should not participate.
2. I am fully aware that there may be inherent risks involved with ACTIVITY, and I choose to voluntarily participate in said activity with full knowledge that said activity may be hazardous to me and my property. **I VOLUNTARILY ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY RISKS OF LOSS, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR PERSONAL INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH**, that may be sustained by me as a result of participating in said activity. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the RELEASEES for any loss, liability, damage or costs, including court costs and attorney's fees, which may occur as a result of my participation in said activity. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the RELEASEES in the event that some problem or accident should occur, or that some Unforeseen Act of God or Nature, or any action or inaction by the RELEASEES resulting in injury or harm, or terrorist activity, should be encountered.
3. I understand that RELEASEES do not maintain any insurance policy covering any circumstance arising from my participation in this activity or any event related to that participation. As such, I am aware that I should review my personal insurance coverage.
4. It is my express intent that this Covenant Not to Sue and Agreement to Hold Harmless shall bind the members of my family and spouse, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns and personal representatives, if I am deceased, and shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
5. In signing this Covenant Not to Sue and Agreement to Hold Harmless, I acknowledge and represent that I have read the foregoing Covenant Not to Sue and Agreement to Hold Harmless, understand it and sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statements, or inducements apart from the foregoing agreement that has been reduced to writing have been made. I execute this document for full, adequate and complete considerations fully intending to be bound by the same, now and in the future.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____

Participant: _____

Printed Name: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian: _____

(If Participant is under 18 years old)

WITNESS: _____

Printed Name: _____

One Partnership Circle ♦ Abingdon ♦ Virginia ♦ 24210
Telephone 276.619.4326 ♦ Facsimile 276.619.4309

Participant Waiver and Hold Harmless

EXAMPLE

School Closing Unrelated to Weather

The Governor's School will follow the schedule of the Washington County Public Schools. Your instructor will inform you of any closings due to semester or holiday breaks.

School Closing Due To Weather

The Governor's School will follow the inclement weather schedule of the Washington County Public Schools. Students should watch WCYB, Channel 5, television station for the official closing of Washington County, Virginia Public Schools. The Governor's School Administration will not issue a separate snow bulletin. Students are advised not to call the Governor's School office for closing information.

If a student's home school has a snow day when the Governor's School is open, the student is encouraged to attend Governor's School classes from home. If this is not possible, the Governor's School instructors will provide students with guidelines for home activities and/or work with students when they return to their home school so class work can be made up. Students should also access the archive to see what was covered in the class they missed.

If inclement weather begins during Governor's School class hours, students will be dismissed at the discretion of their respective home school. If a student's home school is operating on a delayed schedule due to inclement weather, the student should report to their Governor's School Class as soon as possible. If Washington County Schools are on a delayed schedule, usually a 2 hour delay, the Governor's School will be on a similarly delayed schedule.

Inclement Weather Make-Up Days

The Governor's School shall follow the make-up days as scheduled by the Washington County School System.

Answers to Many Often Asked Questions

A. Linwood Holton Governor's School

This school, named for former Governor A. Linwood Holton, a native of Big Stone Gap, uses the Internet for of its course work; however, the school will be implementing a wide range of technologies to permit students to collaborate and share resources with classmates and teachers.

Why is the A. Linwood Holton Governor's School a Virtual School?

Unfortunately, people in southwest Virginia often confront obstacles that others in the state do not have. In this area, the distance between schools, the rugged terrain, and our harsh winter weather serve as insurmountable barriers to providing a traditional, single-building Governor's School. Some students would have to ride more than an hour and a half, over narrow and curving roads, just to arrive at a central site. But we do need to provide gifted and talented students with more opportunities than they likely can find in their own schools. The compromise is a "virtual" Governor's School, which uses distance learning and Internet/telecommunications technologies to provide a curriculum especially designed for gifted and talented students.

Student Selection Process

Participating divisions may submit applications for any gifted and interested rising 11th or 12th grade student who has completed the pre-requisites for the course for which they wish to take. If an eligible rising 10th grade student has completed the required pre-requisites, then that student may enroll for college credit as long as they meet approval by the president of their respective community college.

Each division will develop a selection process based on guidelines developed for Governor's School participants by the Virginia Department of Education. Selection should be consistent with those guidelines.

Criteria for selection should be established related to guidelines developed for Governor's School participants and selection should reflect those guidelines. The division may allocate from its list of eligible students among its high schools or may wish to establish a pool of students and select from among that pool.

Each division may select from participation in the Governor's School the number of students on the eligible list. In addition to those students recommended through a review of applications, each high school principal will be able to submit the name of one student for participation in the program as a "discovery student."

The "discovery" process allows for each high school principal to recommend one student for Governor's School participation as part of that division's total. Those students may be recommended without the review included in the selection process used in the division. The discovery student may not meet criteria established by that division, but may be identified based on the opinion of the principal and his staff that the student is properly served by the Governor's School.

Governor's School student record, application form and faculty recommendations should be used in the Governor's School admission process and forwarded to the Governor's School Director along with the names of the selected students.

Guidelines for Selection

Test scores, attendance records, review of student characteristics and recommendations by teachers should be considered. Interest in science, mathematics, and technology and documented participation in school-based programs may help to determine the level of qualification. Participation in the Governor's School is an honor and students recommended for participation should possess the following characteristics:

1. Strong academic preparation, with special emphasis in the areas of science and mathematics.
2. Test scores that reflect ability and achievement in the areas of science, mathematics, and language.
3. Academic achievement as reflected by grades in those areas supportive of student's success in the sciences, including math, science, and language.
4. Strong interest in continuing their education and careers in science and technology.
5. Demonstrated commitment to participation and contribution to the science process.
6. Need for the alternative educational program offered in the Governor's School.

The student should generally be among the top of their student body in terms of academic preparation and test scores and be capable of pursuing a rigorous academic program with limited supervision.

Honor System

All A. Linwood Holton Governor's School students are expected to submit their own work in projects, tests, homework, research papers, laboratories, and in-class assignments unless their Governor's School instructor gives specific instructions permitting group work on a class assignment. A high level of ethical behavior is expected of A. Linwood Holton Governor's School students at all times.

What do you mean by "Internet Instruction?"

The Governor's School has several servers located in the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon, which house our course content and facilitate communication between our instructors and their students. They can be accessed by our students from their school, home, or from any other place where they have a connection to the Internet.

- The content for your courses will be covered in the textbook(s) you are supplied and supplemented by CD's, and online resources, accessible to you at any time.
- In addition, many other educational tools and resources will be available to you on the school's website.
- Each student will receive a free electronic mail accounts through the Governor's School Mail Server.

- The technology will allow you to see and talk with people many miles away, at no charge, simply by using software on your computer. In fact, you and they will be able to share applications and collaborate on research and projects. For example, you could be working on a science paper with another student 50 miles away. You could use a camera to capture your picture and put it on the screen with your partner, as well as relevant images for your project.
- Each of you could contribute to and correct your paper by typing or deleting words, circling selected passages with your mouse, or even importing graphics into the paper – all in real time. It’s like having a study partner at your house.
- You can keep in close contact with your teacher and classmates. Asking questions and getting help can be done simply by raising your hand (actually clicking on a raised hand) and the help can be either open or private (only between your teacher and you).
- Your teacher can post announcements to you or others in your class, distribute or collect your assignments via e-mail, distribute class notes you may have missed, provide you with a quiz which you can take online, and more.
- You will create and share class presentations with other students in the Governor’s School or perhaps students from all around the world.
- You will conduct real research and consult with subject matter experts – people who can answer your hardest questions by email.

Should I really think about becoming a Governor’s School student?

If you have done well in mathematics, history, and science, if you enjoy those subjects, and you really want to learn and do more in these areas, then the Holton Governor’s School may be what you are looking for. Other traits of successful Governor’s School students are flexibility and a willingness to do things in new and creative ways.

What kind of an academic experience should I expect?

You should expect a high quality, college level course that is probably the most interesting one you have ever taken. You will likely have to work harder than in most of your other courses but you will be so interested that you probably won’t mind. Many of your assignments will challenge you to think for yourself and to come up with creative solutions to real problems. You will collaborate with other students, conduct research, complete projects, and publish your results for others to see and learn from. You will be proud of what you are learning and very glad that you took advantage of the opportunity to participate in our classes.

How do I apply?

Each school handles the distribution of applications in a slightly different way. If no one has approached you with the application, simply see your guidance counselor. If they do not have the application form, it can be downloaded from the A. Linwood Holton Governor’s School Internet site by visiting <http://www.hgs.k12.va.us/Application.htm>. You will need to complete the application and then take it to three teachers and one administrator (principal, assistant principal, or guidance counselor) in your school for their signatures.

Where can I pick up an application, and when are they due?

You may pick up an application from your school’s guidance department or from our website. Complete it carefully and turn it back in to the guidance department or the person they designate by the time that they specify. Make sure you work closely with your Counselor to schedule our classes and others you may need for graduation.

Who makes the decision on admissions?

Your guidance counselor will send in your application, along with details of your academic background to your district’s gifted coordinator. A screening committee will determine the individuals accepted into the program. Your application is accepted or denied based on your own application, the comments of teachers and administrative staff at your school and indications of academic success and promise as reflected in GPA, test scores, etc.

When will I hear something about my acceptance into the Governor’s School program?

Your Guidance Counselor and/or Gifted Coordinator will inform you of the status of your Governor’s School admission application.

If I join this program, will my grades go down?

Studies conducted throughout Virginia have shown that students’ grades don’t change when they enroll in Governor’s School courses. Those who have attained A’s and B’s in the past will continue to do so.

Does the Governor’s School give more homework than I now have?

Occasionally, but you may find that the real difference is in the fact that your homework will not be repetitive, will often be long-range, and that it tends to stretch your mind rather than being the “same old stuff.” Another difference is that your homework is often related to mini-projects for your group and may require some planning on your part as to when particular parts are due.

What if I don’t know anyone?

At first, you may not know many people with whom you take classes or share research assignments. It’s the same feeling you might have in the first few days of college. The total group of Holton Governor’s School students will come from about 36 schools in southwest Virginia. Sometimes you will meet together with all or most of these students for activities. For the most part, however, the group of students with which you have the most contact will be small in numbers, and you will get to know everyone quickly. You may find that you’ll develop some friendships that will last for years. Just remember that at first everybody is feeling the same way.

What are the basic requirements to get in?

The Governor’s School does have some minimal requirements for admitting students. Following are the pre-requisites for each college-level course:

<i>Course</i>	<i>Pre-requisites</i>
Advanced Multimedia Applications	Keyboarding

<i>Course</i>	<i>Pre-requisites</i>
Appalachian History	U.S. History
Astronomy	Algebra II
Creative Writing	ENG-112 or divisional approval (See Counselor)
Engineering Methods & Computer Programming	Algebra II
Engineering & Robotics	Physics, Algebra II
Environmental Science & Related Problems	Biology
Human Anatomy & Physiology	Biology and General Chemistry
Principles of Physics	Algebra II and Geometry (or equivalent)
Probability and Statistics	Algebra II
Western Civilization	U.S. and World History
World Civilization	U.S. and World History

Do I have to reapply every year?

Yes, you will need to complete an application so that your current vital information will be available.

What percentage of Governor’s School students go on to college?

Almost all of the students attending Governor’s Schools in Virginia go on to colleges and universities just after graduation from high school. You may find that being a member of a Governor’s School program actually attracts the attention of colleges, and the added prestige of being part of this unique gifted and talented program may bring you more offers of scholarship money and advanced standing.

How can I get more information?

Your guidance office will help you in making your decision, as will the Gifted Coordinator in your district office. You may get additional information from our website by visiting <http://www.hgs.k12.va.us> or you may simply call the Holton Governor’s School office at 276-619-4326. We will be happy to talk with you about the program.

Code of Conduct

Students attending the A. Linwood Holton Governor’s School will be expected to abide by the following:

The A. Linwood Holton Governor’s School will provide a unique learning opportunity for those students selected to attend. Students who attend the A. Linwood Holton Governor’s School are selected to attend with the expectations that they pursue both academic and personal excellence. Because the freedom to explore, question, and learn from others is an important part of that pursuit, students are given more freedom to make decisions, govern their personal conduct, and make use of the facilities and expertise of the staff that would be found in most high schools. The expectations are students will make good decisions in the use of that freedom. Consideration for others and adherence to school rules will be the guide for personal conduct. The rights, safety, privileges, and dignity of all people will serve as the criteria by which the appropriateness or inappropriateness of personal behavior will be evaluated, as well as will acts that place the student or others in personal danger. If behavior fails in these tests or inappropriateness is in violation of the law or regulation, it will not be condoned.

The A. Linwood Holton Governor's School program is not for students who do not take school attendance and schoolwork seriously, one that requires above average maturity and judgment. The relationships students develop with A. Linwood Holton Governor's School teachers and home school teachers provide a unique opportunity, but also require a level of discipline and judgment, which may not be demanded in a regular high school program.

Rules and Regulations

Students attending the A. Linwood Holton Governor's School will be required to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct that is in effect at their home high school as well as the Code of Student Conduct that is in place for the governance of the Governor's School.

Major discipline problems shall be handled by the student's home school. The Director of the Governor's School has the same authority as a school principal to exercise whatever disciplinary measures are appropriate to deal with student misbehavior at regional sites. Students who have serious or repeated behavior problems may be asked to withdraw from the Governor's School to participate in a program that is a better match with their level of maturity and learning preference.

Ethical Conduct for Electronic Learners

With the use of information resources and technology, it is the responsibility for all students to:

1. Recognize and honor the intellectual property of others.
2. Comply with legal restrictions regarding plagiarism and the use and citation of information resources.
3. Report equipment problems immediately to facilitator or instructor.
4. Keep work areas neat and clean.
5. Keep food and drinks away from computers and electronic equipment.
6. Compensate the school for any abuse of the equipment resulting in damage.

All A. Linwood Holton Governor's School students shall become familiar with the Ethical Code for Electronic Learners that exists and is currently used in their home schools.

Students will need to experience a curriculum with much forethought and advance planning. At the same time, the need to change schedules and approaches in order to adapt to the needs of the individual and group as a whole is essential. The curriculum should be ever evolving as a result of evaluation and new opportunities.

The curriculum content for the A. Linwood Holton Governor's School will be academically rigorous but will require a nurturing of the whole student with emphasized components such as service to the community, leadership training, and a culture of entrepreneurialship. Projects and activities of this program will be built around established interests and concerns of the community. Use of technology to enhance the delivery of the program is an essential component of all aspects of the Governor's School.

Students will study in cluster groups within their class. Planned study activities on weekends will provide opportunities for bonding, visiting distant areas of interest, and intensive study of specific ideas and internships.

Since two of the three pillars that support the A. Linwood Holton Governor's School's philosophy are entrepreneurship and leadership, these concepts will be integrated appropriately throughout the activities of the program and will be infused in the curriculum design.

The goals of the A. Linwood Holton Governor's School are as follows such that a student should have a program in which:

1. Academic content is rigorous and challenging. Application and real life experiences are an integral part of the curriculum with basic topics and skills integrated throughout all subjects.
2. Personal choices are encouraged. Independent studies, mentorships, internships, and community and academic service are integral components of the curriculum.
3. Communication (oral, written, and technical) is planned for and emphasized throughout the curriculum.
4. Project management is a stressed component with independent learning fostered with the teaching of skills for decision-making and project completion.
5. Divergent thinking is stressed through the encouragement of creativity and entrepreneurship.
6. New, meaningful products are produced with a focus on real world issues and problems.
7. Multi-disciplinary learning with integration of basic and technological skills is fundamental to the curriculum.
8. Character and leadership development are interwoven throughout daily activities. Activities might include seminars, conferences, and in-depth study through telecommunication.
9. Peer support and interaction are planned and prevalent.
10. Excellence is the tone set throughout the school.

